

News Release

Commencement Exercises for the Class of 2013 at the U of M Crookston Saturday, May 11, at 2 p.m. in Lysaker Gymnasium

By Itollefs on Wednesday, May 1, 2013The Class of 2013 will be honored during commencement exercises at the University of

Minnesota Crookston on Saturday, May 11. The ceremony begins at 2 p.m. in Lysaker Gymnasium and will include almost 200 students, representing 13 countries and 25 states and honoring more than 25 online graduates who are setting foot on the campus for the very first time. A reception in the Northern Lights Lounge, Sargeant Student Center, will precede the commencement ceremony from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The public is welcome to attend both events; no tickets are required. A special reception will be held on Friday, May 10 for all online graduates from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. in the NWSA Alseth Business Boardroom located in Dowell Hall. A reception for international student graduates will be held following commencement exercises at 4 p.m. in Bede Ballroom, Sargeant Student Center.

On Saturday at 2 p.m., the formal procession of faculty, candidates for degrees, and platform guests will begin from the Sargeant Student Center to the gymnasium led by Mace Bearer William Peterson, professor in the Math, Science, and Technology Department. The procession also includes Faculty Marshal W. Daniel Svedarsky, professor and director of the Center for Sustainability on the Crookston campus.

Bringing greetings from the University of Minnesota Board of Regents is the Honorable John R. Frobenius, from St. Cloud, Minn., who will also assist with the conferring of the degrees.

U of M Crookston alumnus Kevin Kopischke '72 (in photo, top, right) will give the commencement address. Kopischke, who graduated from the U of M, Crookston with a degree in hotel, restaurant, and institutional management in 1972, is the president of Alexandria Technical College in Alexandria, Minn. Kopischke earned his doctorate in educational policy and administration from the University of Minnesota; his master's in educational leadership and a bachelor's in marketing education, both from St. Cloud State University.

University of Minnesota Crookston Alumni Association (UMCAA) Board President Karl Syverson '11 will bring greetings from the UMCAA and welcome the new graduates to the alumni association.

Graduating senior Adam Switzer (in photo, left), Crookston Student Association (CSA) president, will speak on behalf of the Class of 2013 and pass the torch of education, a Crookston campus tradition, to Junior Alexmai Addo (in photo, right, below) the incoming CSA president. Switzer, from Apple Valley, Minnesota is majoring in Sport and Recreation Management. Addo is a communication major from Monrovia, Liberia.

The U of M Crookston choir, under the direction of Associate Professor George French, will sing two selections, and the string ensemble, A Touch of Brass will perform as part of the graduation ceremony.

The 2013 commencement exercises mark the 105th graduating class to be recognized on the Crookston campus. A live audio stream of the commencement exercises will be available.

For more information, visit the commencement Web site at www.umcrookston.edu/commencement.

Today the University of Minnesota Crookston delivers 26 bachelor's degree programs, 18 minors, and 36 concentrations, including 10 online degrees, in the areas of agriculture and natural resources;

business; liberal arts and education; and math, science and technology. With an enrollment of 1,600 undergraduates from 25 countries and 40 states, the Crookston campus offers a supportive, close-knit atmosphere that leads to a prestigious University of Minnesota degree. "Small Campus. Big Degree." To learn more, visit www.umcrookston.edu.



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